CAG report on disinvestment of BALCO

478. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 305 given in Rajya Sabha on 15th April, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the CAG has furnished its final report on disinvestment of Government equity in BALCO; and

(b) if so, the observations made by the CAG therein?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Disinvestment of NALCO

479. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed disinvestment of NALCO has been deferred;

(b) if so, the specific reasons therefore and whether the deferment is likely to have adverse impact upon investment sentiment and valuation of equity;

(c) the annual rate of return on public/Government investment in NALCO at present; and

(d) whether it is possible to ensure that the company's economic viability and profitability in future in view of the liberalization and globalization of the economy?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Due diligence by potential bidders have been suspended as the team that went for the first plant visit was roughed up. As such incidents can adversely affect investor sentiments as well as valuation, due diligence will be resumed after adequate arrangements have been ensured.